

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
D E P A R T M E N T O F H E A L T H

Safe and Healthy Lives in Safe and Healthy Communities

BOARD OF CHIROPRACTIC PHYSICIAN EXAMINERS

In the matter of:
Tony Knapp, DC
License # DC-P 00438

Consent Order

This matter was before the Rhode Island Department of Health, Division of Professional Regulation, Board of Chiropractic Physician Examiners (hereinafter "Board") upon allegation that Tony Knapp (hereinafter "Respondent") engaged in unprofessional conduct in the practice of the chiropractic medicine for engaging in a sexual relationship with a patient under his care.

Findings and Order

1. Respondent is a licensed chiropractic physician practicing in Middletown, Rhode Island.
2. In January of 2006, the Respondent began treating a 31 year-old woman for injuries related to a motor vehicle accident that occurred the day before.
3. Respondent treated the patient on approximately 19 occasions between January 9 and May 31, 2006.
4. In March of 2006, the physician/patient relationship began to deteriorate and the Respondent and the patient began exchanging e-mails and phone calls that were personal in nature.

5. Shortly thereafter, the Respondent and the patient met socially outside the office and began a sexual relationship that included the physician moving into the patient's apartment.
6. The Board of Chiropractic Examiner's finds that the Respondent engaged in "unprofessional conduct" by having sexual contact with the patient and by failing to maintain professional boundaries during the physician/patient relationship.
7. In accordance with the provisions of R.I.G.L. § 5-30-17 referencing § 5-37 of the General Laws, the Respondent has violated § 5-37-5.1 (30) for having sexual contact with a patient during the existence of the physician/patient relationship.

The parties agree as follows:

The Respondent is a chiropractic physician licensed and doing business under and by virtue of the Laws of the State of Rhode Island, Doctor of Chiropractic license No. DCP00438.

- (1) Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Board and hereby agrees to remain under the jurisdiction of the Board.
- (2) Respondent has read this Consent Order and understands that it is a proposal of Board. This Consent Order is not binding on Respondent until final ratification by the Board.
- (3) Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:
 - a. The right to appear personally or by counsel or both before the Board;

- b. The right to produce witnesses and evidence in his behalf at a hearing;
 - c. The right to cross examine witnesses;
 - d. The right to have subpoenas issued by the Board;
 - e. The right to further procedural steps except for specifically contained herein;
 - f. Any and all rights of appeal of this Consent Order;
 - g. Any objection to the fact that this Consent Order will be presented to the Board for consideration and review;
 - h. Any objection to the fact that it will be necessary for the Board to become acquainted with all evidence pertaining to this matter in order to review adequately this Consent Order;
- (4) Acceptance of this Consent Order constitutes an admission by the Respondent of the facts set forth herein.
- (5) This Consent Order shall become part of the public record of this proceeding once it is accepted by all parties and by the Board.
- (6) Failure to comply with this Consent Order, when signed and accepted, shall subject the Respondent to further disciplinary action.
- (7) The Respondent's license to practice chiropractic medicine is hereby put on probation and monitoring for a period of five (5) years. During this time, but commencing immediately, the Respondent will be evaluated for fitness to practice and boundary violations by Dr. Branden Krupp, M.D. The Respondent waives any state or federal rights to confidentiality

regarding this examination. The results of this evaluation will be sent to the Board of Chiropractic Examiners. Upon receipt of this evaluation, the Board may impose any other conditions on Respondent's license to practice chiropractic medicine as is deemed appropriate upon receipt of the evaluation. Respondent agrees to cooperate with the evaluation and all recommendations made by the evaluator which the Board believes are appropriate under the circumstances.

- (8) Additionally, the Respondent must complete the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners post licensure examination entitled Ethics and Boundaries Examination within six months.
- (9) Respondent is assigned an administrative fee of One Thousand (\$1,000.00) Dollars.

Signed this 20 day of September, 2006.



Tony Knapp, DC

Ratified by the Board of Chiropractic Examiners on Sept 20, 2006.



Charlie Alexandre, RN
Chief of Health Professions Regulation